12/5 C 29/21/01

PATENT Docket No.: 19603/1451 (CRF D-2008A)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Xin-Yun Huang

Serial No:

09/273,217

Cnfrm. No.:

6809

Filed:

March 19, 1999

For:

METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING SPECIFIC ION

CHANNEL BLOCKERS

Examiner: N. Basi

Art Unit: 1646

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AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the March 14, 2001, office action, please amend the above-identified as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 5 and 23.

Please amend claims 1 and 19 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of identifying an ion channel blocker for an ion channel comprising:

providing an external vestibule portion of an ion channel and identifying, as an ion channel blocker for an ion channel, an antibody, binding portion of the antibody, probe, or ligand which antibody, binding portion of the antibody, probe, or ligand binds to the external vestibule portion of the ion channel and is effective to inhibit ion transport through the ion channel.